

From: Ethan Ligon
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 11:28am
Subject: Proposed Microsoft Settlement

I would to take advantage of the provisions of the Tunney Act to register an objection to the proposed Microsoft settlement.

As an economist with an interest in antitrust issues, I regard the settlement's provisions regarding alternative operating systems with alarm---in particular, Microsoft is **not** forbidden from taking a variety of retaliatory actions against OEMs who ship machines pre-loaded with an alternative operating system, or for that matter, without any operating system at all.

My research involves considerable computation, and I have never used any version of Microsoft windows on any of the many computers I've purchased. Nonetheless, I have been compelled to pay for various versions of MS Windows, as Microsoft tends to compel system vendors to install MS Windows on all machines they ship.

Sincerely,
-Ethan Ligon

--

Ethan Ligon, Assoc. Professor ligon@are.berkeley.edu
Dept. of Agricultural & Resource Economics
University of California <http://are.berkeley.edu/~ligon>
Berkeley, CA 94720-3310 (510)643-5411